



# The Newbury Boston emerging out of former Taj hotel in Back Bay

*Renovations will produce several new guest rooms as well as a 4,000-square-foot rooftop restaurant*

By [Tom Acitelli](#) Nov 4, 2019, 5:17am EST



*Highgate*

The former Taj Boston Hotel in Back Bay will reopen in spring 2020 as the freshly renamed [Newbury Boston](#) following several months of renovations—part of a mini-wave of renovations in Boston’s higher-end hospitality market.

The renovations that will spawn the Newbury Boston [have been an open secret since fall 2018](#). The Taj Boston shuttered and disappeared as a brand last week to allow for more extensive work, [per the \*Globe\*’s Christopher Muther](#). A limited liability company that San Francisco-based wealth management and investment firm Iconiq Capital controls owns a majority stake in the future Newbury.

The work on the 92-year-old property—[which was the nation’s first Ritz-Carlton hotel](#) before it was rebranded the Taj 12 years ago following a sale—is expected to add 13 guest rooms for a total of 286; and those guest rooms are being redesigned. Also, the Newbury’s front door will be on—surprise—Newbury Street, a change from the current 15 Arlington Street location.

The hotel's 16,000 square feet of event space is due to be updated as well, with its seasonal rooftop converted for year-round use, according to a fall 2018 release from operator Highgate. That rooftop will include a 4,000-square-foot glass-enclosed restaurant with six retractable panels on the ceiling, [per Muther](#).

Alexandra Champalimaud of Champalimaud Design is overseeing the renovation of the Newbury's guest rooms, and Jeffrey Beers of Jeffrey Beers International the new entrance and the shared areas. 



*Highgate*

The Newbury is not alone among luxury Boston hotels in undergoing major work. The Langham, Boston at 250 Franklin Street [is closed for an overhaul](#). The Onyx is looking to expand [via a 5,499-square-foot parking lot at 155 Portland Street](#).

Meanwhile, [new higher-end hotels are in the works](#), including [a Raffles-branded inn under construction at 40 Trinity Place in Back Bay](#).